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about the recent hostilities in Uganda, and the hostility of the natives and Arabs could be only kept within bounds by cutting off their supplies of arms and ammunition from the coast. But if this or anything like it is done—the cutting off of firearms on the one side and running on the other—it will be the first instance in the history of strong races dealing with the weak since Columbus discovered the West Indies, and the Spanish in their avarice for gold let sweep without hindrance all the vices and crimes of civilization that would leave to the last of the flesh or of the mind. It will be many a day before the African slave trade is stopped.

The Samoa Treaty.

The National Zeitung of Berlin, commenting upon the action of our Senate in voting a credit to establish a coaling station at Pago Pago, says:

America obtained the right to establish a coaling station from Samoa, but she did not take advantage of the privilege within the specified time. The establishment of a station now would appear to be an American protest against German annexation.

The treaty concluded January 17, 1878, on the contrary, from there being a "specified time" in which we have not taken advantage of the concession, there is none such. The treaty is in full force and effect to-day, and is a treaty that antedates all others. It was the first one Samoa made with any great power, and is older than that Germany can show. We have not availed ourselves of its privileges because we have not. That is none of Germany's business. We deem now a good time to establish the station and we propose to do it. But the native with which the German paper "gives the snap away" is significant. It says our action under our treaty now would "appear as a protest against German annexation." So then Germany proposes to annex the Samoa Islands! That is just what we Americans have thought but this is the first time, we believe, that the confession of it has been made from a German source. Well, our title to a station in Pago Pago is perfectly clear and we are going to establish one there, and Germany will have a good time annexing something that belongs to the United States of America.

In this connection it is pertinent to note that the German Minister at Washington told the State Department yesterday that he had received a communication from Prince Bismarck, to the effect that the German Government proposes a resumption at Berlin of the consultations which took place in Washington between representatives of Germany, Great Britain and the United States in 1857, on the subject of Samoa.

What effect? It is a simple pretext for delay until Germany can throw enough troops into Samoa to annex it—as the Berlin paper so stupidly avers. In the conference his country would simply be outwitted by Germany and England who are partners in the land-grabbing. It would be like the companionship of the eastern pot and the metal pot floating down stream. We are the earthen pot that would go to pieces at every collision. We want no such companionship. Apia is neutral ground by agreement and we have got a naval station and this much we ought to maintain vi et armis if necessary.

Controlling Cities.

The Curtis bill has been vehemently and viciously denounced as a bill to steal the city, a robber's measure and that sort of thing in a variety of language with the changes rung upon the theme of theft. There is a limit even in the background manners of American politics, beyond which assent and support can not be coerced or coerced. It would seem to be passed in this case. The Curtis bill certainly is not a theft. It certainly is not a bill to steal the city, nor to steal from the city. The only stealing of the city, to speak after the manner of parliament, that has been done has been by the City Council, which has purloined the city's rights in favor of various corporations, notably in the matter of lighting the city, in the matter of enforcing the law on the Street Car Company, and in other ways and sundry manners, robbing the city for the benefit of favorites, just as it would have robbed it for the benefit of the gas fuel monopoly had not popular indignation caused it to withhold its hand. It has robbed it by parceling out its Fire Department over the vehement protests of property-holders, and in this manner has repeatedly sacrificed its rights against honest business judgment.

Such things might fairly be called theft and robbery to speak after the manner of parliament. But in no sense can the Curtis bill be so classified. We are speaking now quite independently of the merits or demerits of that measure and note that it proposes to do only what is lawful.

A city has no inherent power. It is the creature of the State to which for better ordering or convenience certain powers are delegated. It is within the scope of the Legislature to withdraw any or all such powers when it sees fit. Cities have even voluntarily surrendered all such powers. Memphis did and so did Kalamazoo, which after trial preferred village government.

In almost every city the police powers have been withdrawn and resumed by the State, as they have some years ago, and to the vast improvement of the condition of things. Outside of the rights that are absorbing other of the city's powers, we believe no citizen would favor again turning the police over to the control of a City Board to make of it the protector of liquor-law violators and the party election machine that it was. And certainly the use of many other of the city's powers, as we have briefly indicated, has not been such as to afford good and sufficient reasons why they should not be resumed by the State whose powers they are. And this is the point of this homily, namely, that these powers are the State's and not the city's, and in no parable can the State's assumption of them possibly be "theft," "steal," "robbery," etc., etc., etc., such as partisan demagogues endeavor to find in them.

Turkey Stuffing.

City Boy—Do you like turkey stuffing?

Country Boy—Naw! Nobody eats turkey stuffing.

"Guess you don't know what it is."

"Yes, I do. It's the half a pound of corn that you stuff into its crop, after it's dead, to make it weigh heavier."

Sound Philosophy.

(Cosh mingles.)

I don't know of a better cure for sorrow than with plenty sympathy.

With Apologies to Composed Chopin.

The latest waltz is called the "Chow-Chow."

The plant of all Ball-Bloss is the American.

Sometimes who once use it will take no other.

Your grocer has it. Just what you want.

In the Woods.

How most the scenes of this theater. Yet nothing to be seen but lovely pomp and silent majesty; the birch-tree woods are hushed with thousand thousand drops of melted frost-dew, every day know.

And the base trunks, each like a giant's place, stand with their several heads; what strange things upon one tree, while all the distant grove, fast runs to the summit of the silver light.

Shows like a mountain built of silver light; see under the same pageant, and again behind the universal treasury.

Dreamlike the blending also of the whole; the misty landscape, all along the shore the boundary line, as blue as glass.

That parts the image from reality; And the clear hills, as high as heaven around heavenward, so deep, the light below.

Amidst the days of love to come; The evening comes, and fills the air.

With a strange sound of great harmony; And in and all about that painful band, the clear hills, as high as heaven around heavenward, so deep, the light below.

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The German Espionage.

[Washington Star.]

The German system of espionage, signs of which have been noted by American army and navy officers for several years, is now attracting attention anew. German officers have repeatedly enlisted in our army to desert with the information which they were sent to secure. The same thing has occurred to various vessels in our navy. They have sustained wholesale desertions at times which were afterward discovered to be due to the enlistment of numbers of German naval officers sent to report on our ships and their armament. The latest outcropping of this crafty system of spy-work occurred this week during the trial of the 500-pound dynamite shells in New York harbor. There suddenly appeared on the scene, uninvited, a dapper little Spanish Count, well-dressed and introduced. This little man now turns out to be a Baron Stomberg, of the German

